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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/703,181	10/30/2000	Michael T. Moore	CY-0016	9600

7590 12/03/2002
Bradley T. Sako
3954 Loch Lomand Way
Livemore, CA 94550

EXAMINER

LIU, ANDREA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2825

DATE MAILED: 12/03/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/703,181

Applicant(s)

MOORE ET AL.

Examiner

Andrea Liu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 September 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Regarding claim 1, the phrase "may be" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(d).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baxter U.S. Patent No. 5,815,405 in view of Jefferson U.S. Patent No. 6,127,865 and further in view of Applicants' ^{admissions} ~~application~~.

With reference to claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 11, 13, 14-17, column 3 of the Baxter reference teaches a programmable logic device (PLD) that includes configurable elements programmed to perform the functions of the circuit. It also teaches a programming circuit that communicates with another part of the logic device via busses and the generation of a bit stream (see Figure 1B). Furthermore, the reference teaches the new integrated circuit to include operation circuits

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that allow a user to perform conversion of one PLD representation to another (see Figures 1A, 1B and 2). Here it is understood that a user may input data via varied software tools to define the circuit design. Moreover, column 10 of the Baxter reference teaches a memory circuit for storing configurable elements. However, the reference does not explicitly disclose a timing circuit.

The Jefferson reference teaches a clock signal generation circuit wherein a phase-shifted signal is produced to compensate for a logic signal delay in a PLD with a plurality of programmable logic elements such as logic array blocks programmed to be interconnected so that output logic signals provided by one block are received as input logic signals by another block (see columns 3 and 4). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include this feature in order to conduct logic signals between respective operably connected programmable logic elements.

Combined, the Baxter and Jefferson references teach an integrated circuit device with a communication portion as well as a timing circuit. However, they do not show an integrated circuit device wherein the data operation circuits include a scrambler circuit to perform a scrambler operation.

Applicants' ^{admission}~~application~~ acknowledges, under the Background of the Invention section, that "polynomial representation of scrambling functions and circuits are well known in the art." To include the steps related to scrambling would thus have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art since in so doing, one may ensure that a transition in state takes place within a set time frame through, *inter alia*, the detection of when a sequence of consecutive bits has the same value (see page 2).

Response to Applicant's Comments

In reviewing the prior art sent to the Applicant on July 3 July 2002 the Applicant's arguments filed on 26 September 2002 have been considered and found to be persuasive by the Examiner. However, claims 1-23 have been rejected in light of the new prior art enclosed hereto.

Since the above change was not necessitated by the Applicant's amendment, this is not a Final Rejection.

Status of Application

- Rejection: Claims 1-23

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrea Liu whose telephone number is (703) 305-4041.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 1-800/PTO-9199.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Liu", is located in the lower right quadrant of the page.